



THE ROOSTER'S CROW

The HOOKER OAK BRANCH #84 meets the FIRST THURSDAY of each month at
 MANZANITA PLACE,
 (inside the Elks Lodge building)
 1705 Manzanita Avenue,
 CHICO, CA, 11:30 AM

**SONS IN RETIREMENT,
 HOOKER OAK BRANCH #84**

Volume 46, Number 11

November 2024

SIR exists to enrich the lives of its members through fun activities, luncheons and events while making friends for life.

The Branch Executive Committee meets at 10:15 AM on the same day at the same place.



SIR Happenings

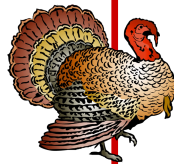


Cycling Club

Ken Doglio, David Kronick and Tim Kressin rode from Susanville up towards Westwood last month! If you care to join us in our next SIR ride, let Tim or Ken know. We plan to ride the Fridays after the SIR meetings. All of our rides are ride and decide. We will tailor the ride based on the participant's interest. We do have an e-bike to loan out to anyone who cares to join us!



For More Information Contact:
Tim Kressin - 951-743-1297
Ken Doglio - 530-933-3921



GOLFERS

Branch 84 and Branch 110 tee off together for several tournaments at courses throughout the area. Now that the weather is cooperative, you can dust off your clubs, hit the range for a few practice swings, and join the fun.

For information on upcoming golf outings, please contact Paul Broissoit.

530 514 3486



SIR Branch 84-Current List of Special Interest Clubs

Bowling Club - Ray Quinto 530 343 6752

Fishing Club - Ron Ward 530- 354-5147

Golf Club - Paul Brossoit 530 514-3186

Hiking Club - Rich Utter (Branch 110) 925-922-7020

Movie Club - Greg Sanger 530-518-7924

Writing & Book Club - Chip Meriam 530-228-1544

Special Activities Club - Alex Van Patten 530-566-2151

Cycling Club - Tim Kressin 951-743-1297

BOWLING CLUB

The

Bowling Club meets every Tuesday night for drop-in open bowling, from 6:00 PM to 8:30 PM, at the Bolero Bowling Center in Chico.



Ray Quinto
 530 343 6752





OFFICERS

BIG SIR,	Chip Meriam-----	228-1544
LITTLE SIR,	Tim Kressin-----	951-743-1297
SECRETARY,	Mike Hamlin-----	526-4408
ASST. SECRETARY,	Lowell Terrell-----	895-1737
TREASURER,	Paul Brossoit-----	530-514-3486
TREASURER ASST.,	Ray Quinto-----	343-6752

DIRECTORS

Jerry Brandt-----	636-4392
Don Foster-----	566-1218
Jim Hertl-----	897-0402
Richard Kannenberg-----	208-869-5786
Myles Pustejovsky-----	342-4751
Allen Wood-----	343-2771
Mark Ward (Alternate)-----	680-8518

AREA REPRESENTATIVE

Lee Lamp-----	921-1375
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COMMITTEES

ATTENDANCE,	Mike Crump-----	530-588-4781
ATTENDANCE ASST.,	VACANT	
AUDITOR,	Benny Sommer-----	895-0840
BOWLING,	Bob Gaines-----	514-5066
CHAPLAIN,	Richard Kannenberg-----	208-869-5786
CHAPLAIN ASST.,	Bob Roberts-----	219-2566
DINNER CLUB,	Jerry Brandt-----	636-4392
FISHING,	Ron Ward-----	354-5147
FISHING ASST.,	Harold Frazier-----	809-1623
GOLF,	Paul Brossoit-----	530-514-3486
HIKING,	Jim Hertl-----	897-0402
HOUSE MANAGER,	Jim Hertl-----	897-0402
MEMBERSHIP,	Greg Sanger-----	345-2344
MEMBERSHIP ASST.,	Ken Doglio-----	933-3921
MOVIE CLUB,	Greg Sanger-----	345-2344
NOMINATING COMM.,	Greg Sanger-----	345-2344
R. CROW EDITOR,	Chip Meriam-----	228-1545
R. CROW ASST.,	Lowell Terrell-----	895-1737
SONG DIRECTOR,	Jerry Brandt-----	636-4392
SUNSHINE,	Jim Hertl-----	897-0402
TRAVEL,	Lowell Terrell-----	895-1737
TRAVEL,	Don Foster-----	566-1218
WRITING & BOOK CLUB,	Chip Meriam-----	225-1544





FROM THE BIG SIR

Chip Meriam

Greetings, fellows.

Welcome to November! This has long been my favorite month of the year because, among other reasons, it includes the Thanksgiving Holiday—when the fare is fowl. In fact, you'll see that reflected in our luncheon menu for November 7.

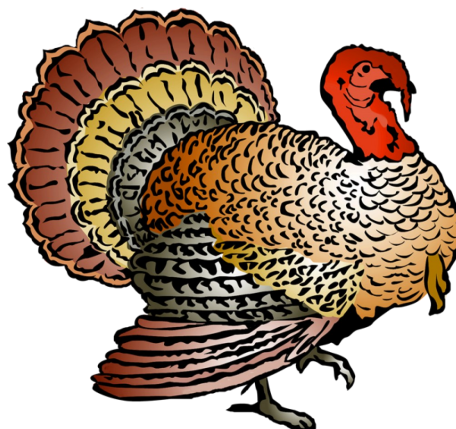
I distinctly recall Thanksgiving gatherings from years past, when our extended family came together in one location to give thanks, share stories, and enjoy a special home-cooked feast. My earliest memories featured my mother as the cook. I can still see her mixing up tiny bread cubes, onions, olives, and cranberries, then stuffing them into a giant turkey. In later years, I became the “man who runs the range.” Without realizing it I followed the same time-tested rituals I had seen my mother perform—sometimes preparing dinner for as many as sixteen relatives.

Traditionally, we would begin the celebration with a prayer of thanks. Then we went around the table, person by person, each offering something for which they were thankful. This is a tradition we continue to this day, although there are now only four of us (*six if you count the two dogs, Nola and Charly*).

I suspect we all have similar memories of large family convocations. And we all find ourselves in comparably less company these days. Nonetheless we have no shortage of things to be thankful for. Not the least of which is our memberships in SIR and the fellowship that comes from it.

So, this year my thanks go out to all of you, fellow SIR members, for your friendship, your good humor, and for investing your time reading what I have to say.

May you all have a joyous and **Happy Thanksgiving!**



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Rene Brandol, Dennis Bruggman,
Dick Donner, Rick Farley, Ron Griffin,
Bob Roberts, Mark Ward

November 7, 2024 - 11:30 AM

Manzanita Place (Chico Elks)

Pete Volpato - United States Navy , retired



Pete Volpato describes himself as, “Just a Chico kid born in 1940, educated through Notre Dame Grammar School, Chico Junior High, Chico Senior High, and Chico State College. Enlisted in the Naval Reserve a month after Chico Senior High graduation, got into a commissioning program while attending Chico State, married a beautiful Durham High School gal when a Senior at Chico State, got commissioned following Chico State graduation in 1962, served three years active duty in Communications aboard USS RANGER, then back to Chico where I joined my father’s auto dealership until it was time to retire. Retired from the Naval Reserve, watched my old ship get decommissioned, lost my beautiful bride, but still going vertical in the morning and bitching about politicians.”

Rideshare Service

Myles Pustejovsky has kindly volunteered to set up and coordinate drivers to chauffer members who do not drive any longer or do not have rides to our luncheons. His plan is to divide the area up into districts and ask for volunteers in each district to pick up and drop off members before and after each luncheon. If you are interested in volunteering to pick up fellow members on the way to and from our luncheons, or would like to take advantage of this new club service, please contact Myles.

Myles Pustejovsky

530-342-4751

mandadurham@att.net



Luncheon Fare

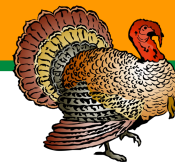
Roast Turkey

Mashed Potatoes

Green Bean Casserole

Bread & Butter

Apple Pie with Whipped Cream



IF YOU CANNOT ATTEND THE NOVEMBER 7 MEETING, PLEASE NOTIFY MIKE CRUMP BY NOVEMBER 29 530 588 4781

WISDOM

November. The month of Thanksgiving. I could make a list as long as my arm of the things I am thankful for, but I will not bore you with that. But, here is one thing you may not think of and that is the amount of hair you still have. Some of us are bald, some thinning, some of us still have a full head of hair. I am rapidly thinning, but I am not 35 either! I would like to share a little barber chair wisdom/humor with you:

- 1: When I was just a lad, my Dad cut my hair with a hand clipper. Once I asked him to cut it all off, which he did. I looked into the mirror and started to cry as my bumpy head looked so awful
- 2: One day, when in high school, I went to a barber in a near by town. He noticed I had a big collection of warts on the back of my hand. He offered to take care of them. He produced an electric rod that threw a spark about three inches long and he just fried them. They swelled, festered, sloughed off...and grew back. No extra charge..
- 3: In college I went to a different barber once. Over the course of the session he took a bite out of his apple, adjusted the window, counted the money in the cash drawer and finally shaved half of his face with the lather left over from my neck.
- 4: In haste one afternoon I was looking for a barber shop. I pulled up to a shop and the black barber was sitting on a chair outside. As I rushed up he began to quiver and shake and said. "I don't cut straight hair, come back in the morning. He does".
- 5: I was in the barber chair here in Chico one day when a customer walked in and asked the first-day-on-the-job barber for the next chair for a crew cut. He about blanched. He probably had rarely seen one, could not pronounce it and had not done one in school. My barber attempted to talk him through it. He finally asked me if he could help the young man finish the job. I was okay with that and I told the young barber to not take it too hard, we have all endured the FIRST DAY on a job.
- 6: I was temporarily working in a farming/ranching town and went to get a hair cut. I was about 40 and my curly hair often looked like I had a perm. That was the case when this weathered farm hand walked in. He asked, "Are you giving them perms in here now"? The message between the lines was that if that was the case, he was out of there. I assured him that my mother gave me that 40yrs ago, so not to worry.
- 7: For many years my wife cut my hair. I sort of enjoyed those sessions Well, that is enough for now.

October 9, 2024 Richard Kannenberg

USELESS AND IRRELEVANT WORDS

November 2024

A Wee Bit of History

I saw the following article in the Smithsonian Magazine and it reminded me that, once again, it's time for our annual evening fest of ghosts and goblins. My merry old and favorite aunt reminded me that there are times when just a little touch of the macabre can become the spice of life, at least when it's in fun and not the kind that leaves you sleepless for the next three nights. Anyway, here's the article.



My Favorite Old Aunt

“Blessings in Disguise. The Spine-Tingling Roots of a Halloween Tradition.” By Brandon Tensley. September-October 2024, Smithsonian Magazine.

“Between Themed TV specials, novelty candy flavors and the pageantry of mass-produced costumes, Halloween has become so thoroughly Americanized that we often forget that the holiday grew from much more far-flung and Ancient roots.

Costumed trick-or-treating takes its inspiration from the Celtic holiday, Samhain – “summers end” in Irish. Samhain marked New Years Day and fell around November 1 in the modern calendar. On the eve of each new year, the Celts believed that the barrier between the living and the dead became porous, allowing a host of supernatural entities – including fairies and demons – to emerge and stalk the earth for one spine chilling night. To pacify these spirits and ward off trouble, people would leave out offerings of food. As an extra precaution, they'd disguise themselves as beasts or monsters to blend in with the otherworldly visitors.

In the seventh or eighth century, Samhain took on a second name: All Saints Day, or, in Middle English, All-Hallows. The night before, when those demons walked the Earth, became known as All Hallows' Eve, or Halloween (*The change likely came when Pope Gregory III moved the church's celebration of Saints from May 13th to November 1st, to assimilate pagan influences as Christianity was working to win crucial converts*).



By the 16th century, “guising[#]” was common in Scotland and Ireland on all Hallows Eve. Children disguised as ghouls, made the rounds receiving treats to ward off malign spirits. In England, poor adults would sometimes beg for biscuits; in return they would send up a prayer for that person’s lost ones.

Halloween didn’t properly reach the United States until the 1840’s, with the mass arrival of immigrants from Ireland and Scotland. These newcomers brought their many traditions with them – including begging for treats. But trick-or-treating – a term that only started appearing in the 1920’s – really took off after World War II, when sugar rationing ended. Burgeoning new suburbs provided accessible new routes for families, and the rise of individually wrapped pieces of candy made it easy for adults to distribute treats to children – and help stave off the pranking that had become popular among ghoulish youngsters during the 1920’s. As one man put it in a letter to the editor in the 1940’s, trick-or-treating “is, obviously a mild kind of blackmail in which – whatever the motives – the treats are always forthcoming.”

[#]*Guising -- Guising is the practice of dressing up in costumes and visiting people's homes, often on Halloween, to ask for candy or money. The word "guising" comes from the word "disguising".*

As always, comments are welcome. Trick-or-Treat!

His spookiness – Greg Sanger gsanger@comcast.com

